

# California GARDEN

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8:00 P.M.

## New Rose Creations

SEPTIMA HARMER

New creations appear yearly not only in the world of fashion but, also, in the rose world. The glowing color tones of these rose creations, however, surpass those of the newest, gayest fabrics.

Tastes in roses differ as in fashions. Some gardeners will have none but the old fashioned roses, preferably the pink and red ones—no modern yellow floribundas for them! To others, one rose is the same as another as long as it smells like a rose. The real rose fancier wants to try the new roses. He is seeking the ideal rose of unfading color and disease resistance.

Rose hybridizers are constantly striving to breed, in the new introductions, those traits such as strong unfading colors, glossy leathery foliage, strong stems, disease resistance, lasting perfume and hardiness; traits which they know a rose must possess to appeal to the buying public. Leaders in this field are the rose hybridists of California, especially of Southern California.

To the buyer of roses the letters AARS beside the name of the variety are a recommendation that they are America's finest roses. AARS stands for All-America Rose Selections.

In 1940 a national non-profit organization was set up to test all the new roses, and to select the best of each year's introductions for national awards. Even roses originated by hybridizers in foreign countries are eligible to compete for these awards. There

are, at present, twenty-four roses proudly bearing these awards.

Roses winning these awards have been test grown for two years in the eighteen All-America trial test gardens, located in different areas of the United States. They have been scored on a uniform point basis by eighteen of the most capable rose judges. The top winners, scored as nearly perfect plants, display the best qualities of the flower and the proven ability to thrive in any section of the country.

Five roses, Diamond, Jubilee, Taffeta, Nocturne, San Fernando and Pinkie, have been named All-America roses for 1948. A sixth rose, a yellow climber, High Noon, scored so high it won a sectional award with the word "Regional" prefixed to AARS. This designates it as adaptable only to the more temperate climates of the Southern and Pacific states.

Bearing the very appropriate name, Taffeta, because of its lovely changeable coloring, which varies from rose pink to carmine red—this rose bush is upright and sturdy. It bears a profusion of fragrant, semi-double, frilled petaled blooms.

Nocturne is considered one of the finest cardinal red roses; it has long streamlined buds and plenty of semi-glossy foliage.

Pinkie, a delightful free blooming pink floribunda, useful as hedge or border plant, is the fourth of the Armstrong Nurseries' 1948 winners.

San Fernando, developed by Ted Morris for the Western Rose Co., is a magnificent, bright scarlet, thirty petaled rose with a captivating per-

fume. It is the only one of the so-called "Mission Trio" roses to receive the award. The other two, the yellow tinted San Luis Rey and deep salmon San Gabriel, are fine roses, too. They were introduced by Mr. Morris for Germain's.

E. S. Boerner of Jackson and Perkins of Newark, New York, originated Diamond Jubilee, a beautiful buff orange rose with a true old rose fragrance. I have heard Mr. Boerner remark that he always hopes for fragrance in his originations.

The 1949 AARS are already announced and there are only two, both originations of the hybridist Herbert Swim, in the research department of the Armstrong Nurseries at Ontario, California.

Forty-niner is the fitting name for an unusual bi-color, the inside of the petals a cherry-red color, while the outside of the petals is yellow overlaid with pink.

The other 1949 winner, Tallyho, is also a bi-color but not as pronounced in color contrasts as Forty-niner. Its petals are phlox-pink on the inside and crimson on the outside.

A new hybrid tea rose of the same parentage as Tallyho, is Applause. This is not a bi-color but a dazzling bright red, many petaled fragrant rose. Applause won the first post war Gold Medal award at the Bagatelle Gardens in Paris, France in 1947.

In 1948 an American rose by the same hybridist, Mr. Swim, won the Bagatelle Gold Medal for the best rose outside of France. It is named Sutter's Gold, truly Californian in name, a reminder of the one hundredth anni-

versary of the discovery of gold in this state. Sutter's Gold, with its long pointed buds of orange, reddish tinted, is not yet listed in the catalogues; it will be available some time before 1950.

It was my pleasure to see all these new roses, and many others as yet unnamed, at the Armstrong Nurseries during the national convention of the American Rose Society held in Pasadena this October. Mr. Swim, himself, conducted us through the test fields. I'm looking forward to the debut of a very lovely pink unnamed beauty which I saw there. In the convention assembly room we saw the introductions of many other growers and hybridizers.

Howard and Smith of Montebello, California, are commemorating the birthday of our state by naming one of their new introductions for 1949, California Centennial. This is an outstanding red rose. Those gardeners who dislike thorns will find this splendid rose practically thornless.

Another 1949 introduction by the same grower is a large, many petaled, fragrant white rose, aptly named Sleigh Bells. We need more good white roses and this one promises to fill the need.

At the convention, two 1949 floribundas, also from Howard and Smith, called Crimson Rosette and Pink Rosette, attracted much attention. The large fifty petaled flowers, borne in huge clusters, are striking in color. We were told the flowers, when cut and well chilled, kept fresh as long as ten days.

The list of other new floribundas is a large one. The word "floribunda" is more commonly used now than "polyantha" in designating those many clustered roses, so useful for low, bushy hedges and masses of color.

The floribunda Holiday is a distinct novelty in its color combination of vermillion red on the inside of its petals and orange yellow on the outside. It has a clove-like scent, unusual in floribundas.

Another novelty is Lavender Pinocchio, a true lavender, described in the catalogue as "chocolate brown overlaid by dusky pink." Marionette, a sport of the pink Pinocchio, is a new white floribunda. All these floribundas, creations of Mr. Boerner, are fragrant as well as his still new, true yellow floribunda Goldilocks.

Somehow, we associate red roses with Christmas. A splendid new 1949 red rose is here with the lovely name of Rose of Freedom. It has flowers of immense size and intense fragrance and the blooms last long when cut.

Any of these new roses, as well as the many fine older varieties, make a welcome Christmas gift. Some nurseries feature as Christmas gifts a collection of five of the AARA winners.

The Christmas season, and on through January, is the best time to plant roses here in San Diego. Rose bushes are then as dormant as they become in our mild climate. Planted then, they get off to a good start with our rains.

It is advisable to buy bare root, No. 1 bushes. In planting, dig the hole deep enough so that the bush, when planted, has the bud union at the surface of the soil.

If drainage is poor, place a six inch layer of gravel, or some coarse material, at the bottom of the hole, then soil mixed with well rotted manure, compost if you have it, or bone meal and a handful of soil sulphur. I emphasize the soil sulphur which is not a fertilizer but a soil corrector and activator. This is because both the soil and water in San Diego are on the alkaline side, and sulphur helps to correct this condition.

Dig the hole wide enough so that the roots, when spread out over a mound of clean soil, are not cramped. Fill the hole by tamping in the dirt well and saturate the earth with water.

Your Christmas rose bush will probably give you some blooms the first of the year, reminding you that the rose is the universally beloved flower and, as Edgar Guest wrote: "When God first viewed the Rose

He'd made

He smiled and thought it passing fair:

Upon the bloom His Hand He laid  
And gently blessed each petal there,  
He summoned in His artists then  
And bade them paint as ne'er before  
Each petal so that earthly men  
Might love the Rose forevermore."

#### HUMUS

Humus is really decaying organic matter. Organic matter is an essential part of all good soils. It is constantly decaying in the soil and must be replaced from time to time as it becomes depleted.

## Your Garden

### January, February, March

These are the months when the bulbs planted in the fall begin to bloom. Already in November and December, the Narcissi have made their appearance. January usually sees the Snowdrops blooming. With February the Daffodils begin and the late Narcissi show up. From then on come the Tulips, Hyacinths and Iris. This is the period in which the rose garden comes to judgment. Roses that are too old, too stingy with blooms, unsatisfactory in any way, come out and new plants go in.

**January:** This is a month for garden planning for the coming garden year. Upkeep goes on, of course, with pruning and fertilizing and no watering, it is to be hoped. This month and next are both good for planting shrubs or trees. It is a good time to move shrubs if the garden is to be materially redesigned. Bare root Roses can be planted and other roses pruned. If not done earlier, left over chrysanthemum plants should be heeled in where they will not show. Gladiolus corms may be planted this month for May bloom. Some bulbs such as Anemones, Begonias (Tuberous), and Lilies are still on the market.

**February:** Seeds of Clarkia, Calliopsis, Candytuft, annual Chrysanthemums, Godetia, Larkspur, Phlox, Poppies can be sown in the ground this month. They should be protected by coarse cheesecloth or wire. These seeds should produce flowers for June. Take up and divide perennials such as Anchusa, Columbine, Coreopsis, Geum, Huechera, Penstemon, Salvia, Veronica. It is still time to plant bare root Roses and to prune them.

**March:** All plants can be set out now from annuals to trees. Iris bloom this month. Daffodils are fully in bloom. Keep planting Gladioli for summer bloom but wait until next month to set Chrysanthemum cuttings. Roses will probably need spraying, shrubs through flowering should be pruned, and fertilizer should be used on nearly everything but the seedlings. Dahlias left in the ground should be taken up now and divided. It is still too early to plant seeds like Asters, Petunias, Zinnias in the ground. This is the time to start getting the lawn in good condition.

# Planting for Foliage

VIRGINIA MCKENZIE SMITH

As fashions in landscaping change with the years, the pampas grass cluster and the red geranium beds of the early nineteen hundreds give way to open spaces of lawn and low foundation planting. Fewer too are the eugenias clipped and coaxed into becoming rigidity which stood guard over doorways of the 1920's with cotoneaster and coprosma.

There is not, however, as much improvement in planting for household decoration. Grandmother's dusty aspidistra, potted fern and rubber plant have been removed from the parlor only to make way for tortured philodendron, tethered to wrought iron brackets or twined around a piece of driftwood. The reptilian Sansevieria seems to be a decorative must for modern rooms as the ubiquitous pot of ivy is for the period, or traditional, scheme.

There are many beautiful foliage plants, when used with imagination and restraint, which will make a lasting decoration for the house for from two to four weeks. Why not try planting a few of these for cutting, as you would plan a cutting garden of annuals? Consider the advantages of foliage both inside and out of the house when planting hedges and background shrubbery.

Of course, not every garden will have room for trees such as the ever decorative copper leaf plum (*Prunus pissardi*), the leathery magnolia with its oddly shaped seed pods or the graceful pittosporum. But even the smallest plot or patio can support a loquat.

Of all foliage plants the loquat is the loveliest and one of the most enduring, under all conditions. The branches will keep at least two weeks in water. Just one or two swirls of the wide green leaves are most effective decoration for any room, particularly as a mantel arrangement. As a background for fruits, used on the table, the leaves will keep out of water for several days. And so much beauty can be had for so little, as the loquat will survive in the worst of soils, requires little water, and is an excellent tub subject for the patio.

Its growth is rapid, so that a little judicious pruning for the house will keep it within bounds, and the branches will never be missed. The non-fruiting variety is best to plant, for, while the fruit is edible, the cluster makes ugly brown stubs on the branches.

One of the most beautiful and most lasting, for cutting, of all shrubs is the little known *Photinia serrulata*. A relative of our own toyon, it is a graceful plant, easily kept within bounds. Like most natives, it requires no special care or pampering. In winter, or early spring, a few of the leathery leaves will turn a bright red. The writer has kept a copper bowl of branches of this shrub in the house for as long as six weeks. It is especially lovely at holiday time.

Many of our tough natured natives, cultivated or wild on canyon lots, will last in the house almost indefinitely when cut. Among the Rhus our common Lemonade berry (*Rhus integrifolia*), Sugar bush (*Rhus ovata*), and what is commonly called sumac (*Rhus laurina*) all, while not spectacular, have lovely clean bright foliage for massing and background.

The Catalina Cherry is another native of easy growth and glossy, clean habit. It makes a dense and beautiful hedge, and can be kept within a small space if carefully pruned. All these rather stiff coarse leafed plants are best arranged in containers such as brass or copper, sugar buckets, wooden bowls or the dark green of Chinese pottery.

The common English laurel, while inclined to burn in our hot California sun, is a shrub of somewhat formal leaf. Better yet is the aromatic sweet bay or *Laurus nobilis*. This will grow into a small tree if not pruned heavily.

The Laurustinus or Viburnum if picked without the tender new growth will keep well in the house. Also in this group could be included the *Raphiolepis ovata* whose leaves develop an interesting color sequence throughout the winter.

Little known, but deserving of special mention in the laurel group, is *Cocculus laurifolius* with a flat classical leaf and somewhat rangy habit. When allowed, it will grow into a

small tree, the long slender branches edged in symmetrical regularity. As the branches are long and very pliable, they make excellent wreaths for Christmas decoration and will last a week without water. This shrub does best on the north side of the house or wall, where it attains its best dark green color.

One of the neatest and most unassuming of shrubs for house or garden, at any time of year, is the Natal plum or *Carissa grandiflora*. Whether grown for its shiny, if somewhat thorny foliage, its fragrant white flowers or plump red fruit, it is a never ending joy.

This shrub can be trained or pruned into any shape. It is particularly suitable for low foundation work or ground cover and the pruned branches can be brought into the house. It is slow to start but of rapid growth, easy culture and very drought resistant.

While the blue purple flowers do not keep, the soft pink edged leaves of *Pleroma grandiflora*, or Queens Flower, are worthy of a place in the house. Try a few branches in green Mexican glass.

Vines are not to be recommended for house decoration as their soft tendrils do not keep after being cut. But the hardy little *Vitus Rhombifolia* with its delicate tri-part leaves and curling tendrils, is lovelier by far than any pot of ivy.

The lowly and despised canna can supply decoration for every month in the year. The long succulent leaves can be turned backward or twisted into arrangements to suit the most modern decorative scheme. There is a deep bronze leafed canna that is most interesting and appealing. These fit beautifully into large square glass blocks or wide bowls. The tropical ginger, if grown in the shade where the leaves will not burn or brown, is also of the texture and feeling for modern rooms.

Most of the scented leaf geraniums such as the rose, mint and lemon varieties with their soft, gray green furry textures, make a decorative and long lasting picture for the house.

It is not the province of this article to go into autumn foliage, berried shrubs or spring blossoms, as they are more seasonal and not lasting when cut. Nor can we go into the undeniably beautiful foliage of trees like the silver gray acacias or eucalyptus.

# Not Just a Camellia

LUCIEN C. ATHERTON  
 Chairman, Research Committee  
 San Diego Camellia Society

Careful selection of camellia plants is essential if one is to receive the full satisfaction afforded by this outstanding ornamental shrub. Once the right selection is made one has only to follow the approved cultural rules in order to realize a lifetime of enjoyment from camellias.

Patronize only reliable nurserymen who are interested in them and have some knowledge of camellias. Too many dealers regard a camellia as just another pretty flowering shrub, and fail to realize that the species Japonica contains hundreds of varieties and that location and climatic factors influence the behavior pattern. Once the variety is decided upon, select a well-rooted plant with healthy foliage. The number of buds or blooms should be of secondary interest in purchasing young plants. The camellia blooms during its period of dormancy which allows one to see the flower of his selection. Always buy camellias by name, never just a red, pink, or white one.

Does the description indicate the variety of your choice? If not, select one that does meet your requirements. A well-stocked nursery has dozens or even hundreds of different varieties from which to choose.

Does the variety do well in your locality? Why waste time, space and money on plants that will not perform to your satisfaction? Often, imported wholesale stock is not adaptable to the San Diego area. Locally rooted and propagated stock is preferable.

The San Diego Camellia Society is making a survey to determine which varieties will do best in certain localities of San Diego County. As this study progresses the results will be made available to interested nurserymen and amateur gardeners who may wish to purchase camellias.

The success of this survey depends upon the co-operation of not only camellia fanciers but of all those who may have one or more of these plants in their general garden layout. A questionnaire will be furnished to any interested party who makes such a request to the Chairman of the Re-

search Committee, 2255 Bancroft Street, San Diego 2, California. By answering the following questions, one is able to rate the variety according to its performance in a given locality. Is the plant in the ground or in a container? What is the approximate age in years? What is the height? How many years has it been under observation? Does it bloom before or after its generally accepted season? What is the plant's condition? Do the flowers blast or shatter easily? Do they sunburn? Do the flowers wilt with sudden heat? Do you disbud if seemingly too many buds set? Do the flowers open under adverse weather conditions, such as a sudden change in temperature or an unusually heavy rain, etc? Before a variety can be rated as to locality it should be observed for at least three years.

These ratings will be used to compile a map for each variety. The suitability of each variety to the various localities in San Diego County will rate as either excellent, good, fair or poor. It is hoped that in the near future these camellia maps will enable San Diegans to select varieties which will give them unlimited enjoyment with only a minimum of cultural care.

An understanding of the descriptive language of camellia classification is useful in selecting a plant. Descriptive lists of camellia varieties generally contain five items of information.

Color: allowance should be made because of difference of opinion, and of variations caused by soil, locality, fertilizer, and climate. The major color classes are white, pink, red, and variegated.

Size: the same factors that influence color will also influence the size of the blooms, even on the same plant. Generally, size classifications are small, two inches or less; medium, two to three inches; medium large, three to three and a half inches; large, three and a half to four and a half inches; and very large, four and a half inches or more.

Form: again no hard and fast rule can apply because one plant may produce various forms of flowers. Camellia blooms are classified according to the six recognized forms. Single: one row of not over eight petals. Example: Enchantress. Semi-double: two

or more rows of petals with stamens definitely showing. Example: Enrico Bettini. Anemone form: flat flower with one or more rows of large outer petals with a center of convex intermingled petaloïds and stamens. Example: Francine. Peony form: deep rounded flower with several rows of outer petals and a convex center of twisted petaloïds and stamens. Example: Peonia-flora. Rose form: imbricated petals showing stamens in a concave center when fully opened. Example: Mathotiana (Julia Drayton). Formal double: fully imbricated, many rows of petals, never showing stamens. Example: Alba Plena.

Type of growth: this information is useful for landscaping purposes, and consists of such growth habits as: slow, medium or vigorous, and bushy, spreading, willowy or upright.

Blooming period: this is denoted by early, October to January first; mid-season, January first to March; late, March and later. Climatic conditions often alter the season of bloom.

The purpose of this article is to guide the novice in the selection of camellia plants. The San Diego area possesses many possibilities in camellia culture. With few exceptions locally grown plants are of recent introduction. It is a well-known fact that camellias do very well in this vicinity, but local conditions may vary greatly from those in other parts of the Pacific Coast, just as Western conditions and varieties differ from those in the Southern states. We are in the pioneering stage and it will be necessary to establish our own preferred list of varieties as well as to modify general cultural requirements to fit the local situation. A true understanding of the successful adaptability of camellias to this area will do much to dispel the belief that camellias are hard to grow and are unreliable in their blooming habits. Actually the reverse is true, if a proper selection is made.

Genuine slack lime is a well-known manure and gardeners have long recognized its qualities. Its action is chemical and the soil, with which it is incorporated, is purified, quickened and enriched. Lime can be a very important factor in a garden which is heavily cropped annually.

# The Garden Saints and I

DOROTHY ABBOTT

In New York City, at the Cloisters Museum, there is a window niche giving a view across the greenness of the park down along the Hudson river. In its left corner stands a little gothic marble figure of a monk holding a spade and a book. It was such an arresting small statue that, when I saw it, I asked who it represented. I found it to be Saint Fiacre, one of the patron saints of gardens. It seemed even then, that Saint Fiacre had a message for me. But I was far away from my own garden and spade. I thought, "I'll look up about the saint with the name of the horse drawn cab when I am home again in San Diego."

Months later, working alone in my little garden plot, I felt that here was solace and almost a presence that mitigated loneliness. But then I said to myself, "How silly! It's just this healthy pleasant occupation that gives a sense of well being."

But a few weeks later in a shop in La Jolla there stood, in a shrine made of driftwood, a fat little ceramic red haired friar with flowers in his arms and flowers twined about his staff. By the wildest stretch of the imagination this could not be the familiar St. Francis.

"It's St. Fiacre," said the proprietress, and home he was carried, driftwood shrine and all.

So down on my hillside, under a pepper tree, is St. Fiacre—Laguna Beach pottery style. And you who read may take it for what it is worth—since he's been there, even with a regime of neglect, plants don't die as they did.

A month or two later, the third minor miracle happened—again on a shopping tour. This time, it was in Los Angeles. I found myself in Dawson's book store, for I could stand no more department store fare. I, for no reason at all, asked whether there was any book in the shop with something about a saint called "Fiacre."

The young woman looked up from her desk with a strange expression. I was sure she was going to say politely, "You must be crazy!" But instead she said, "Look!" She was sorting the leaves of a torn parchment



SAINT Fiacre

Photograph courtesy of the Cloisters, a Branch of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City.

"Book of Hours" dated about 1500 A.D. There, on the leaf before her, was St. Fiacre in most delightful painted miniature. Never, she told me, before or after has she found anything about him. The beautiful illuminated page is on my desk. In this depiction the handle of the saint's spade is a cross.

This story went on to my mother in New York and soon came a clipping from the New York Times. A full

column under "Topics of the Times" entitled "Patrons of the Garden." The first mentioned is St. Phocas, the gardener who lived in the fourth century in Pontus, Asia Minor. This saint grew food for the poor and also kept an inn for poor travelers. But he was betrayed and killed for being a Christian by those for whom he had worked. And before he was killed, he dug his own grave in his garden plot.

(Continued on Page 11)

# A Walk Talk

EDITH PURER

The walk-talks given during the Floral Associations Flower Show in October were enthusiastically received. However, many of our members were so busy with their exhibits that they did not have time to join us. For those of you who missed, and those who would like to join us again we are taking you on a written walk-talk. Let us approach the Japanese Pavilion from the east. At the right is a beautiful *Livistona chinensis* (Chinese Fan or Fountain Palm). Close by *Erythrina coraliodendron* (Coral tree) with its beautiful flowers. The tree is used to shade Coffee plants in some parts of the world. The flowers may be eaten, the seeds are used for necklaces. Chinese Hibiscus often called the Shoe-polish-plant yields a dye used by Chinese women to dye their hair. Looking toward the Zoo grounds the handsome vine on the fence is *Thunbergia grandiflora* var. *alba*.

As we enter the Japanese garden at the right is *Casuarina cunninghamiana* (Beefwood or She-oak). Its drooping branches resemble the feathers of the casowary bird. Under the tree's branches is *Melaleuca nesophila* (Bottlebrush), easily recognized by its seed pods which persist on the branches. *Nandina domestica* (Heavenly bamboo) is a favorite planting, sacred to the orientals. Close by is *Bambusa nana* (Dwarf bamboo) and *Buxus microphylla* (Box) which looks trimmed. *Euonymus japonica* (spindle-tree or burning bush) has shiny foliage. Mr. Hottes explains that "Eu" means "good" and "onymus" means "name," hence "plants with a good name, plants of fair repute."

Turning to the right the walk is edged with *Zoysia matrella* (Manila Grass) a native of southeast Asia. *Aspidistra lurida* (Cast iron plant), with shining smooth leaves, is a potted house plant or, as found here, is used as a ground cover.

*Phormium tenax* (New Zealand Flaxlily) has fibers in the leaves which are useful in tying up plants. There are several *Cordyline australis* (Dracena) trees which belong in the lily family. The low growing palm is *Chamaerops humilis*, the only palm native to Europe. Continuing on the

path we pass *Prunus persica* (Peach) from China. Directly in front of us is *Tecomaria capensis*, a semi-vine encircling *Phoenix canariensis* (Canary Island Date Palm). It is the most bulky of the Date Palms and should never be planted on small lots. *Ophiopogon japonicus* (Dwarf Lily-turf) grows in dense shade where few plants can grow. This plant, as well as many others in this garden, have come from Japan.

Around the pavilion at the right of the steps is *Pittosporum tobira* with its colored fruits with pitchy seeds. Continuing along the path we find on the north side of the pavilion *Eucalyptus polyanthemos* (Australian beech or Redbox). Through the fence in the Zoo grounds you catch a glimpse of *Bauhinia purpurea* (Orchid tree). Close by is an enormous eucalyptus, *E. cladocalyx* (Sugar Gum). A big clump of *Dendrocalamus latiflorus* (Giant Bamboo) is considered one of the best of the giant Bamboos in southern California. On the other side of the path is the Primrose Jasmine. Turning again to the right side of the path are two succulents, *Crassula portulacea* (Jadeplant) and *Portulacaria afra* (Elephant food). *Dasylinion* (Spoonplant) is a member of the lily family.

On the west side of the pavilion is a small pond around which are *Acer palmatum* var. *dissectum* (Japanese Maple), a handsome shrub or small tree, also *Juniperus conferta* from Japan. *Coprosma*, a Mugho Pine and Deodar Cedar are growing in so much shade that they are not typical. Along the wall of the pavilion is *Cotoneaster pannosa* (common cotoneaster). Used as a ground cover is *Taxus baccata* var. *repandens* (Dwarf Yew). Mr. Sinjen remarked that he has seen the species fifteen feet high with a spread of 60 to 80 feet in Europe.

On the other side of the walk are *Yucca* and *Homalocladium platyclada* (Ribbon bush, Centipede-plant, Tapeworm-plant). The latter, Mr. Harbison reminds us, is a native of the Solomon Islands, a relative of our wild buckwheat. Next is *Malvaviscus grandiflora* (Turk's Cap). Looking west we see the tall trees of *Araucaria excelsa* (Starpine, Norfolk Island

Pine) and two palms, *Howea belmoreana* (Belmore Sentry Palm), a feather leaved palm, and *Erythea edulis* (Guadalupe palm), a fan palm with its apricot flavored fruit. At the corner is *Arbutus unedo* (Strawberry tree). This is a lovely shrub with round red fruits resembling strawberries, they are edible but lack flavor, states Miss Minshall.

Turning left on the path we find ourselves at the south side of the pavilion. One of the conspicuous plants is *Fatsia japonica* (also called *Aralia sieboldii*) which comes in a variegated form, too. *Moraea* (Toad Iris) is the ground cover. Plants with a perianth tube in the northern hemisphere are called iris, those whose segments are flat on the ovary and growing in the southern hemisphere are called Moeraea. We note, also, *Ligustrum* (Privet), *Hydrangea macrophylla* (House Hydrangea) and lovely *Elaeagnus pungens* (Silver Berry) with its fragrant blossoms and unique metallic stellate hairs frosting the plant. Near the bridge we find many plants from Japan, *Cyperus japonica* (Umbrella Sedge), *Juniperus chinensis* var. *variegata*, a dwarf juniper, very slow growing with attractive white tips, *Ginkgo biloba* (Maiden hair tree), the tree which has persisted as a lone member of a numerous tribe in geologic time. It is prized for a street and park tree and for its edible seeds. It has been called the Tree-of-the-forty-coins in China, probably referring to its golden leaves in autumn. Continuing along the walk on the south side of the pavilion are *Nephrolepis* (Sword Fern), *Aucuba japonica* (Aucuba), *A. japonica* var. *variegata* (Gold Dust Plant) and *Buxus sempervirens* (Common Box tree).

On the pavilion is *Wisteria floribunda* (Japanese Wisteria) and below it are Hydrangea and *Begonia carallina* Lucerne.

Crossing the path we see *Aucuba japonica* var. *variegata* (Gold Dust tree), *Hedychium flavum* (Ginger lily), used in making leis and a splendid specimen of *Pinus mugho* (Swiss Mountain Pine). There are also the variegated *Phormium tenax* and the *Podocarpus macrophylla*, a lovely tree from Japan. The ground cover is *Vinca major*. Turning to the right we enter the pergola which is covered with *Wisteria chinensis* (Chinese Wisteria). To one side is *Crinum*, a

member of the Amaryllis family, with pink flowers and messy looking bulbs. Walking along we see *Pittosporum undulatum*, Pampasgrass and *Cinnamomum camphora* (Camphor tree) from whose leaves camphor is distilled. At the edge of the pond is *Iris pseudacorus* (Yellowflag Iris) and in the water *Nymphaea* (Water lilies). Leaning over the pool by the Japanese bridge is *Juniperus conferta*. Climbing over the pergola at this point are *Hedera* (variegated ivy and *Cissus capensis* (Evergreen Grape). An attractive shrub is *Pittosporum tobira* var. *variegata*. By the pond is *Pinus densifolia* (Japanese Red Pine). Close by is *Brachychiton diversifolium* (Bottle tree) which has a wide base. The two palms on either side of the south walk leading out of the garden are *Butia capitata*, which have excellent dates the size of small apricots but have big seeds, says Mr. Harbison.

As we turn out of the garden and walk east we pass a *Eugenia myrtifolia* hedge, trimmed and fragrant *Myrtus communis* and continuing east *Duranta plumieri* (Pigeon berry or Golden dewdrop), *Abelia grandiflora*, and a tree, the largest member of the hollyhock family, *Lagunaria patersonii*, whose pods cause itching. The trees are *Phoenix reclinata* (Cape Palm) and some large Eucalyptus. The shrubs are *Spiraea vanhouttei* and *S. reevesiana*. Finishing our little walk we see *Viburnum tinus* and *Magnolia grandiflora*. We hope you have enjoyed the walk as much as we have.

#### MINA LOBATA

Seed plantings of the annuals is at hand for February, excepting the Heavenly blue Morning Glory and its relative, the Mina lobata; they should not be planted until late in March or early April. Every garden should have a plant of this extra fine and beautiful Morning Glory which lasts until late fall. The Mina lobata make a slender vine with attractive yellow and red flower spikes 6 inches long and is useful for cutting. The humming birds are fond of it.

Give it a string or two to climb to the top of some tall shrub or the limb of a tree; several plants would be better than only one—for any garden.

## School Planting

JANE A. MINSHALL

The school buildings that are being designed and erected today are for the most part beautiful structures, but no building can look its best without a proper setting. All too often in the past thoughtful planning for the development of the grounds has been non-existent and the buildings have either been surrounded by a barren wasteland or have been hidden away behind a tangle of shrubbery. It must always be borne in mind that the purpose of planting in connection with architecture, be it a home or a school, is to enhance the structure, not to obscure it. Planting should never dominate a building. It should always be subordinate, being selected and placed to show the building to best advantage.

In San Diego, as in other California cities, a large school building program is under way at the present time. Because the need for, and the value of proper landscaping was recognized, the San Diego Unified School District last year set up a landscaping department. The big task now is to plant quickly enough to catch up with new construction.

While many of the elements of planting design are the same for small homes and for large public buildings, the type of plant material used in school landscaping is controlled by two factors: The children and the maintenance problem. Both of these factors eliminate the use of shrubs that are not hardy in all respects; a school is no place for shrubs that require pampering. We are fortunate here in Southern California to have a great wealth of plant material with which to work, many good foliage plants and flowering shrubs that can take the hard knocks they are apt to receive. Shrubs with good foliage form the backbone of school planting. Of these the various Pittosporums are invaluable. One of the shrubs most used is *Pittosporum tobira* (mock-orange) because it will thrive under almost all conditions. Its rich, dark green foliage looks well the year round and it is a shrub for sun or shade. It may be grown as a low hedge or for a large mass effect. Its white flowers in late winter and spring are very fragrant.

Certain plants are used to break up a large expanse of construction and here the texture of the foliage is important as the plants are thrown in relief against the building. *Cocculus laurifolius*, with dark green, pronounced veining, has a very decorative leaf pattern. Unfortunately, it seems to be difficult to obtain. *Grewia caffra*, with clean, linden-like foliage and lavender flowers like small asters, is a very easy to keep flat against a wall. *Nandina domestica* (Sacred or Celestial Bamboo) makes an interesting pattern against a wall in a partially shady spot, accenting vertical lines. A shrub that should be better known and more widely planted is *Xylosma senicosa* (Shiny Xylosma), a beautiful foliage shrub that is perfect against a wall. Another use for Xylosma can be seen at Fremont Elementary School where we have recently set out small Xylosma plants along mesh wire fences in the kindergarten play court. These will be kept sheared close to the fences and in time will provide a beautiful screen.

Sturdy, low growing shrubs are sometimes used at walk intersections, as children always seem to cut across corners of lawn. *Raphiolepis ovata* (Yeddo Hawthorne) is valuable for this purpose as it is easily kept low. *Juniperus tamariscifolia* (Savin Juniper) makes a good, spreading gray-green mass. *Carissa grandiflora* (Natal Plum), decorative in foliage, fruit and flower may be used for this purpose as it can be kept low. Because of its spines, traffic is sure to go around rather than through it.

The soil at most of our school sites is very heavy but at a very few of the schools, Crown Point Elementary for example, drainage is so perfect that we can use shrubs that would not tolerate a heavy soil. An interesting shrub for foundation planting that does require good drainage is *Grevillea thelemanniana* (Jewel Flower) with finely-cut, bright green foliage and ruby red flowers that are quite out of the ordinary. Incidentally, Grevillea also makes a beautiful hedge. *Cassia artemisioides* (Wormwood Senna), while quite short lived, is a rapid growing shrub that will give a splash of yellow color to the landscape. Its gray-green finely-cut foliage is hand-

some throughout the year. *Pittosporum nigriceps* (Tauwhiwhi) makes an excellent hedge or screen in a light soil and should be planted more often. Its black stems give it a striking appearance.

There is no substitute for a good lawn and nothing sets off a building so well, unless it is a few fine trees. We are planting lawns, certainly, but we are also trying out different types of ground covers in areas where the children won't walk. Lawns do take time to maintain properly. The chief drawback to ground covers other than lawn in this area is the constant fight to keep out Bermuda grass. How practical these ground covers are because of that problem remains to be seen. Three different ground covers have been planted at Fremont School: *Lonicera halliana* (Hall's Honeysuckle), *Vinca minor* (Small-leaved Periwinkle) and *Hypericum calycinum* (Aaron's Beard). These varieties of *Vinca* and *Hypericum* are difficult to obtain and, unfortunately, are seldom seen down here. An excellent cover for warm, dry, well-drained ground is *Grevillea obtusifolia*, which forms a widespread fuzzy mat of green sprinkled in spring with red flowers. This is another plant that should be seen more often. *Hedera helix* (English Ivy) makes a good green cover and is not too particular as to soil.

San Diegans, upon returning from trips up North, generally have the feeling that street trees must have been cut down in their absence. Surely the city couldn't have been so bare before they left! Except for our parks we are treeless here, as compared to other cities. Underlying layers of hardpan and lack of rainfall are given as reasons but there are many trees that grow well here, including some beautiful ones not well known by the public. We are using trees that need publicizing in our planting program, hoping that people will see them at the schools and will create enough demand for the trees that nurseries will stock them. *Metrosideros tomentosa* (New Zealand Christmas Tree) is a rare tree of great beauty, growing well in sandy soil near the ocean. It has clusters of dark red flowers in late spring. *Crinodendron dependens* (White Lily Tree) with oak-like foliage and quantities of little white, bell shaped flowers in spring and summer, is a small tree good for

## FROM THE FILES . . .

### Ornamental Flowering Fruit Trees

By K. O. SESSIONS

Mr. Frank Strausser, on Sunset Blvd., has a large specimen of the Evergreen Pear that blooms profusely, very early in season but I have never been fortunate to see it in bloom. The foliage is very glossy and attractive and the short flowering branches end in a decided spike like that of the hawthorns. It does not bear fruit. Less than two years ago I planted two of these Evergreen Pears in my home garden, now one is over seven feet tall and the side branches I shortened last summer so the plant has a symmetrical and erect growth, tied to a stake to maintain an upright central stem. The last week in January it is full of fine and full bunches of small white flowers, typically pear blossoms, and is the most attractive plant in the garden and certainly will be worthy of general cultivation for its early blossoming season. An older plant may have graceful sprays or branches full of flowers which would be very decorative and useful as cut flowers.

The brilliant *Prunus campanulata*, a native of Formosa and seen abundantly

planting in a lawn, for it likes a lot of water. *Podocarpus elongata*, with soft, finely-cut green foliage, is a good looking shade tree the year around. A number of these beautiful trees are planted at the Civic Center. We are planting some deciduous trees to provide autumn color, for many San Diego children know little about such trees. *Liquidambar styraciflua* (Sweet-gum) gives a spectacular fall coloring in red and gold, even in San Diego.

Public buildings, especially public schools, and their grounds are the centers around which other developments are built. Attractive and well developed school grounds have a direct influence upon nearby home grounds. Residents seeing these take an interest in the beautification of their community as a whole and the children as well as adults react favorably to the more pleasant surroundings. The school can and should be a place of special beauty.

in the gardens of Southern Japan, was brought as seeds from there by Mr. E. H. Wilson and distributed from the Arnold Arboretum. Mr. W. D. Coolidge of Pasadena grew it to a flowering size in his rare plant garden nursery and proclaimed its beauty and use for a sidewalk tree. My plant is now this last week in January in bloom, every branch and twig full of the brilliant rose colored pendant bell-like flowers, about three-quarters of an inch in length. Their shape gives it the specific name of *Campanulata*. The foliage comes after the bloom has passed and is like the cultivated fruit cherry only half the size. The fruit is very small and black and all pit or seed.

A third and very promising early ornamental is the double flowering light pink, purple-leaved plum. My three bushes are densely full of big buds at this time and I have already picked a few sprays in full bloom. Another ten days will surely see it a beautiful display. It is a most promising plant for cutting and the Cherry also will likewise be useful.

The light pink flowering peaches will soon be showing their beauty and this wet winter will surely develop flowers in great abundance. The red peach comes a week or two later than the pink variety and the double white still later. This one bears the largest and finest blooms of them all but the white though very beautiful is not so attractive.

*Prunus pissardi*, commonly known as the purple-leaved plum, comes still later. Its flowers are small, single and a delicate pink shade and may be in fair development by February 22nd, though always good early in March.

These flowering fruit trees if planted somewhat in the background of our gardens or on the outer edges of the orchards are worthy of a very generous planting for the glory of their flowers is conspicuous at a good distance, and their rather ordinary foliage during the year is not so prominent. The pruning of this class of trees should be done when in bloom for cut flowers and if not so used then as soon as the blossoms have faded prune them, for their new growth through the summer produces the fine flower sprays for the winter blossoms. I believe they bloom earlier here than in Central California.

# The Fall Flower Show

EMILY W. CLAYTON

On October twenty-third and twenty-fourth, the San Diego Floral Association held its first flower show since May of 1947. As usual the Fall Flower Show was successful in giving pleasure as well as in raising money. The event produced a net return of five hundred dollars for the Society's reserve fund and was esthetically worthy of the beautiful weather that prevailed for it both days.

Since Chrysanthemums are the flower most available for display in any fall show, the Japanese pavilion provided a peculiarly appropriate background, both indoors and out, for the many entries. But it took a lot of old-fashioned elbow grease on the part of both the show committee and the San Diego Park Department, to put the neglected pavilion in a state of good enough cleanliness and repair for use. Like all our park buildings, the pavilion has suffered from its war time use. In addition to the wonderful co-operation given the committee by the Park Department, much of the work incident to getting the show set up was donated by Mr. MacAllister who made this his memorial to the late Mrs. Mary A. Greer to whom the whole show was a tribute.

Mrs. Lester Wright was chairman for the show with Miss Alice Greer as her very active assistant. And Mrs. John Clark, president of the Floral Association, also took a major part in the work of making the show successful.

Walk-talks in the park surrounding the pavilion, were an added and specially interesting feature of this Fall Show. The tour and the plants identified are described in another part of this issue of *California Garden* by Dr. Edith Purer. This area has unusual planting and, for the show, the ginkgo trees yellow against the prevailing dark growth were a dramatic note. The walk talks both days started at 11 a.m. and closed at 5 p.m.

The show really began before the visitor reached the ticket takers, with two large urns on either side of the entrance gate. From these urns spilled two waterfalls of cascade Chrysanthemums, which, like the striking spider Chrysanthemums which lined the en-

trance walk, were shown by the Euclid Nursery.

To the right of the entrance path, under the trees, was the flower mart. There buckets full of gorgeous single and double Chrysanthemums or pin porcupine Dahlias—donated by the Walmsley Nursery—were for sale. Beside these, there were spider Chrysanthemums in bronze, white, yellow and orchid. This mart netted nearly seventy dollars of the total show proceeds. It was also an attractive exhibit in itself.

To the left of the entrance path was the Mission Valley Nursery's fine show of Fuchsias, Begonias, standard Roses, Azaleas—a sunny corner of variegated color. The plants made a particularly gay display because of the background of white lattice.

The foundation of the pavilion, on both sides of the front steps, was colorfully banked with closely packed blooming shrubs, mixed with green house plants. It was a handsome collection and was the exhibit of the Walter Anderson Nursery.

Beyond the Mission Valley Nursery's corner, beside the pool, Westergaard's Rose Court Nursery made a flash of vivid color with their potted Cyclamens—the beginning of the Christmas season of potted flowers. And the pool itself was an unforgettable sight with Rosecroft's tuberous begonia blooms floating on the water—magic islands of massed blossoms in scarlet, flame, yellow, pink, white, apricot.

On the other side of the pool, the Montalvo nursery had a showy bed of Azaleas and Chrysanthemums with an additional fine exhibit, indoors, of *Dieffenbachia*.

Other professional displays indoors, included the striking flower arrangement from Chester Strom's Patio Shop, and another from the Mission Florists. The Reynard Way Camellia Garden entered an arrangement of delectable Camellias as did the Camellia Society, by grace of Mr. Stanley Miller.

On the south porch of the pavilion was a remarkable collection of curious seed pods and other oddities of the plant world from the Balboa Park Nurseries. These were accumulated and arranged by C. I. Jerebek. Another porch feature was the fascinating exhibit on the east side of the tropi-

cal flowers, fruits and nuts which came from the Stanley Andrews Rancho Alta Vista at El Cajon.

On the west porch, Edwin Wylie, landscaper, displayed small rock work and charming rustic hanging baskets. And here, too, Mrs. F. W. Fitzpatrick, active member of the Floral Association, had a most instructive exhibit of Chrysanthemum seedlings. The unusually fine Gerberas shown by Harvey of Encinitas were a vivid display at the door of the pavilion opening on the porch.

Going indoors, an outstanding feature was the authentic Japanese arrangement by Miss Elsie Kimberly. This was completely in keeping with the background provided by the building and seemed entirely at home. This serene corner was decorated with a number of Chrysanthemum plants, including an enchanting small bronze one of the cascade type. These plants were all raised by a gifted amateur, Mr. Tanaguchi. The kakemono used in Miss Kimberly's arrangement was loaned by the Quon Mane Company.

The fact that the show offered no ribbons or prizes, because it was a tribute to Mrs. Greer, did not affect the quality of the entries in the different amateur arrangement classes. In fact, it is fortunate that there were no prizes, for selection would have been extremely difficult. Several exhibitors entered arrangements in more than one class. All of the entries were imaginative and restrained. Perhaps the pavilion, or the painting of Mrs. Greer, cast a spell that made it easy to arrange beautifully both in the severely lovely Japanese style and in the gourd and fruit arrangements which had a happy Thanksgiving generosity.

A partial list of those whose entries made the show one more to remember with pleasure includes: Mrs. Charles Bustamante, Mrs. Stewart Carse, Mrs. Paul Crandall, Mrs. Edward Culver, Mrs. Leon Fish, Mrs. Sydney Frantz, Miss Alice Greer, Mrs. George Harper, Mrs. Roy King, Mrs. Arthur Putnam Loring, Miss Lela Marks, Miss Alma Marks, Miss Kathryn Morrison, Mrs. Ada McLoud, Mrs. John Nutall, Mrs. Arthur Shoven, Miss Etta Schwieder, Mrs. Fred Scripps, Mrs. P. F. Thompson, Mrs. Tanaguchi, Mrs. Paul Vance, Mrs. Lester Wright.

Chairman for the hostesses who welcomed visitors to the show was

Mrs. Joshua Bailey. Dr. Edith Purer was chairman for the walk talks for which other outstanding authorities served as leaders. These leaders were Mr. Robert Calvin, Mr. Ira Harbison, Mr. Alfred C. Hottes, Mr. Roland S. Hoyt, Miss Jane Minshall, Mr. W. F. Sinjen. Mr. Stewart Carse as chairman took most of the burden of ticket taking, a very demanding job.

As to the classes into which the entries were divided, Mrs. John Clark was chairman of the local nurserymen's displays, and Miss Alice Rainford was chairman for arrangements by local florists. Chairman for the arrangements of fall flowers and berried shrubs was Miss Etta Schwieder, assisted by Mrs. John Nuttall and Mrs. George Harper. Mrs. George Gardner was chairman for the collection of subtropical materials. Mrs. Stewart Carse and Mrs. Arthur Shoven were co-chairmen for arrangements for Thanksgiving.

Ceramic bowls and arrangements by ceramic artists were the responsibility of Mrs. Arthur Putnam Loring with Mrs. Herbert Price and Mrs. E. H. Churchman as assistants. Mrs. William Murray was chairman of arrangements in dried materials and Mrs. Paul Crandall for the Chrysanthemum exhibit. A large collection of Saintpaulias was under the chairmanship of Mrs. Herbert Jenkins.

The profitable and lovely flower mart was directed by Mrs. Mark N. Baldwin who had Mrs. Kenneth Vance and Mrs. A. F. Gardner to help her.

It was nice to see so many familiar faces at the show and so many familiar names on the entries. Mrs. Fred Scripps a charter member of the Association has been exhibiting since 1909 and once more entered one of her delightful arrangements. She has seldom failed to take a part in any of the shows. A number of other members of many years standing made a special effort to come to this show because it was a tribute to Mrs. Greer. And it was also nice to see many new people interested in flowers and flower shows.

Two new bi-color roses have been chosen to receive the All-American Selections awards for 1949 by the National Rose Jury. The roses are *Tallyho*, pink and crimson, and *Forty Niner*, yellow outside and vividly red inside.

## Cacti

People who like oddities have always gone in for the various members of the cactus family. These plants of strange shapes, bristling spines, vivid flowers, have a natural enough appeal for collectors of the curious, but today they are becoming more than popular—they are fashionable. Modern houses seem to be designed as a background for the different members of this prickly group.

It is all right for the cactus to become a household pet. It is a true blue American plant in the hemispheric sense. Those cacti which are found in other parts of the world are just itchy footed. They have ridden some migrating bird, ship, plane or human. They belong on our side of the world.

As there are some thirteen hundred species of cactus, there should be a variety for every taste. Most people think of a cactus as a fleshy plant with spines; a thing shaped like a barrel, a column, or a conglomerate of spiny paddles. Flowers are expected to stud the body of the plant without a stem of any kind. But this is not necessarily so. One kind of cactus (*Pereeskia*) has leaves, flowers on stems and, in general, seems to make every possible effort to disguise its family background.

A cactus can climb or trail as well as just stand there looking picturesque. And it is a fallacy to think that most cacti can go without water forever. It is true that a cactus can be drowned by too much water in a badly drained pot. But in the growing season they usually want a little.

For an individual with an urge to surgery, but no medical background, the cactus offers a special service. Grafts can be made, merely by placing two cut surfaces together and binding them firmly. Even two different types of plants can be combined; a globe cactus can be set on a living pedestal of some other variety, or a trailing cactus can be given a stiff, supporting, and foreign stem.

Most cacti grow readily from a stem or joint cutting. But a good many local fanciers just snatch them on a desert trip in a wholly illegal manner. However, the snatched plants grow. When a legal cutting is used, the cut surface should be allowed to dry until

it is seared. This takes several days and sometimes a corky layer is formed, which is all to the good. Cacti also grow easily from seeds—those of some varieties germinate in a few days.

All in all, cacti, in spite of their forbidding appearance, are more amenable to cultivation than most plants. And they are, even yet, used rather less than they should be. January is the month for the Christmas cactus with its shocking pink blooms flowering just when color in the garden is hard to find. While most cacti are late spring and summer bloomers there are so many, of such varied habits, that they can be looked to for color the greater part of the year.

## PEPPER

The pepper you ordinarily buy in a can or jar is the berry of *Piper nigrum* which now grows in most tropical areas. It is the pepper which is important in world trade. When the outer shell has not been removed it is called black pepper, when it has been removed it is white pepper.

The peppers we could grow in our gardens, and which the Mexicans do grow, are the fruit of a very different kind of plant, *Capsicum frutescens*. Of this type of pepper, the small red ones are the hottest and the big green ones the mildest. Paprika, essential to cookery in some central European countries, is made from a long, pointed type of fruit.

To enjoy the flavor of black pepper it should always be ground as it is used. Fresh ground pepper has as different a flavor from the canned kind as fresh made coffee from the warmed up kind.

## PEAT MOSS

What kind of soil do you have in your garden? Do you labor with sticky clay? Is it hard, yet fertile adobe? Gravelly or stony? Or are you trying to induce loose sand to hold fertility? Any such soil is a problem in any garden but don't worry with it any longer. You can quickly and easily correct it by mixing granulated peat moss into it. It will make a crumbly loam of it and supply the humus material your soil needs. Don't take halfway measures. There is no danger in using too much peat moss. It cannot possibly burn or rot the roots of plants.

# The Garden Saints And I

(Continued from Page 5)

St. Fiacre had no such tragic life. A Celtic prince of the middle seventh century, he became an anchorite and went from Kilmacrae, Ireland to Gaul. There he lived in the forests. He was granted a tract of land for a hermitage by the Bishop of Meaux. He stayed there for the rest of his life, and, for the many disciples he drew to him, the Abbey of Breuil was built.

There are many legends about St. Fiacre but if his name strikes a familiar echo in the memory, it may be because the French hackney coaches were named for the good anchorite. This was thanks to a Parisian innkeeper who, in the middle of the 1600's placed a statue of St. Fiacre over his doorway. Apparently he was also the first innkeeper to offer carriages for hire, and soon the Inn of St. Fiacre was known for its livery service. One can still hail a fiacre in Paris.

To me it really seems as if St. Fiacre has manifested himself as the Garden Patron for this locality. I am sure my own Santa Dorotea, virgin and martyr, patroness of gardens and flowers, has approved of St. Fiacre moving into my garden. It is very comforting I find, to glance up at his statue when things just don't grow right. A little contemplation on his sainthood returns my problems to proper perspective. For what is meeting an encampment of snails and slugs compared to traveling from Ireland to a strange land populated by Gauls?

Surely my canonized Garden Patrons must glory in the thought that working in a garden promotes the greatest of all Christian virtues—humility. For one must kneel at this work, even if on sponge rubber. And this way one gets more closely in touch with the miracle of flowers.

P.S.—By the author. Please believe in this less familiar legend as you do in the legend of St. Nicholas.

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## IN MEMORIAM

Bailey, Liberty Hyde. *The Cultivated Conifers in North America, Comprising the Pine Family and the Taxads; Successor to The Cultivated Evergreens.* New York, Macmillan, 1933.

This book, recently added to the Reference collection of the San Diego Public Library, bears the following inscription on the bookplate:

Presented by

MR. AND MRS. FREDERICK G. JACKSON

In Memory of

MRS. MARY A. GREER

It is a complete guide to the classification and culture of conifers including approximately one thousand different kinds, all species and varieties known to be in cultivation north of Mexico. There are many splendid plates and drawings. Some sections of the chapters on culture are contributed by other authorities.

Even the Christmas tree problem is treated in several tolerant pages and is considered a legitimate by-product of the forest and a profitable commercial venture when properly handled.

With his customary loving care, Dr. Bailey devotes himself to these families as though they were his favorites, which probably they were, while he was considering them and characterizing them as "steadfast attractive examples of strong original lines in nature" because they have not been extensively hybridized.

As Bailey says, these trees "appeal strongly to the person who has arrived at a settled purpose in life . . . and whose sentiments are established . . . They typify the strength of strong men and women as they grow old with the advancing years."

It is in every way a thoughtful and fitting memorial to Mrs. Greer.

## Black Locust Has Many Uses

Black locust is a four-purpose tree, says the United States Forest Service. It quickly produces good timber for posts and other uses; it roots strongly, thereby checking soil erosion; its flowers enable bees to make a good quality of honey; and it is a legume. The nodules on its roots store nitrogen in the soil, enriching it for future crops. In addition, it is a tree of beauty and is valuable for shade.

## Outstanding Plant Of The Month

January—*Erica Melanthera*

One of the most popular plants of that group called heath or heather is the fast growing *Erica melanthera* which blooms in winter with delicate pinkish lavender flowers with black eyes. These cuplike blossoms completely cover the plant, making it a fine decoration either potted or as cut sprays. The species is easily recognized by the tiny black anthers which have supplied the specific name, melanthera. It hails from South Africa which has given California so many exotic plants.

The blossoms often stay on till March and during the rest of the year the plant is quite decorative. It does well both on the coast and in the dry warmth of the interior.

This and other members of the genus are excellent as specimen plants and, in masses, they are striking. Another advantage is that many bloom in winter when the flowers are most appreciated.

Most of the heathers are easily cultivated if we remember that they do not like manure. The best soil is light peat mixed with sharp coarse sand and free from lime, bonemeal and animal fertilizer. Perfect drainage must be supplied and they prefer partial shade. Larger growing shrubs should not be planted close, for heathers are easily crowded.

There are few groups of plants which offer the possibilities of the Ericas. The newer hybrids are mostly French but South Africa has given the world many native heaths, and there are hundreds more awaiting exploitation. Their range of color is wide and many of the dwarfs would add a new note to our stock gardens.

This *Erica* is often called Scotch heather but the heath of English literature and history belongs to the closely allied genus of *Calluna*. The true Ericas comprise about five hundred species most of which are from South Africa and the rest mostly from the Mediterranean region. There are no native heaths in this hemisphere. All the heaths grown on a large scale have been developed from the South African species.

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## **STATEMENT OF THE OWNER SHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCU- LATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMEND- ED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1946**

of California Garden, published quarterly at San Diego, California for October 1, 1948.

### **STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, ss.**

Before me, a Notary in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Emily W. Clayton, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that she is the Editor of the California Garden and that the following is, to the best of her knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily, weekly, semiweekly or triweekly newspaper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the acts of March 3, 1933, and July 2, 1946 (section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations), printed on the reverse of this form, to-wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher, San Diego Floral Association, P.O. Box 323, San Diego 12, Calif.

Editor, Emily W. Clayton, 150 W. Palm St., San Diego 3, Calif.

Managing editor, none.

Business manager, none.

2. That the owner is:

San Diego Floral Association, P.O. Box

323, San Diego 12, Calif.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgages, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are:

None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustees or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

EMILY W. CLAYTON, Editor,  
27th day of September, 1948.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this

(SEAL) WM. GEISINGER.

(My commission expires Feb. 18, 1951)

## **SCALE**

Remember that peppers and oleanders are hosts of black scale and if there were not so many other hosts, it might possibly pay to refrain from planting them in the garden or near citrus, and possibly removing those already planted. Olive trees, for instance, are even more subject to black scale than are the two plants mentioned although less so near the sea. Many ornamental plants breed scale insects; so do many wild shrubs on our hills. California holly (toyon) and wild cherry are very often covered with black scale. Other plants as eucalptus, the olive, sumach, (laurel) camphor tree, etc., are breeders of red scale, an insect much more serious in some gardens than is black scale. Except in the case of commercial citrus growers who can, to a greater or less degree control plantings around them, it rarely pays to refrain from enjoying the plants named because of the possibility that they may breed scale. In most cases, such plants can be successfully treated for scale when necessary.

## **Practice Garden Sanitation**

Well-fed, well-watered, clean-cultivated plants or trees are not as susceptible to attack from insects or diseases as are poorly-cared for or undernourished plants. Proper feeding, water and sanitation are necessary to the health of plants. Keep old trash, weeds, boards, leaves and other clutter cleaned up. They offer ideal spots for insects and disease spores to shelter or develop.

## **TOADFLAX**

JOHN MAHER MURPHY

Butter-and-eggs

on the green platter of hillside  
with salt of sunlight in them!

Here the small dew takes its  
breakfast:

Here the four winds dine all day:  
Here my spirit now is supping.

Here is food for vagrant creatures  
like the winds,  
like the stormy heart.

# SHOPPERS' GUIDE

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SAN DIEGO DOWNTOWN	Albright's Farm & Garden Store 702 Ninth Ave., F-5822	Seeds, Garden Equipment Fertilizers, Hardware
	Dunning's, Inc. 909 Sixth Ave., F-5387	Seeds, Bulbs, Pet Supplies
	Millar Seed Co. 733 Broadway, M-0219	Seeds, China, Curios Birds and Cages
	Rainford Flower Shop 2140 Fourth Ave., F-7101	Cut Flowers, Corsages, Plants Della Robbia Wreaths
MIDDLETOWN	Whitney's Dept. Store 946 Sixth Ave., F-8262	Tools, Plants, Seeds Gardening Accessories
	Reynard Way Camellia Gardens 2661 Reynard Way, W-1493	Camellias, Cymbidium of all types
HILLCREST	Washington Street Nursery 510 W. Washington, J-8228	Ornamental Shrubs, Hedges Roses, Camellias
MISSION HILLS	Mission Hills Nursery 1525 Ft. Stockton Dr., J-2808	Pottery, Roses Garden Supplies
LOMA PORTAL	Walter Andersen's Nurseries 3860 Rosecrans, J-3721	Gift Certificates, Camellias, Fruit Trees
	Farmer's Market Branch of Point Loma's Nursery 2790 Midway Drive, B 8450	Bare-Root Roses, Bare-Root Fruit Trees
MISSION VALLEY	Benard's Mission Valley Nursery Between Cabrillo Freeway and	Roses, Bedding Plants, Perennials, Shrubs, Trees
OCEAN BEACH	Montalvo Gardens 4455 Montalvo St., B-4070 Old Town, J-2648	Rex Begonias, Ferns Sub-Tropical Plants
LINDA VISTA	Point Loma Nursery 1150 Greenwood, W-3588	Bare-Root Roses, Bare-Root Fruit Trees
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LA MESA, CALIF.	70th Street Nursery & Gardening Service 4375 70th Street, H-6-6165	Weekly Yard Maintenance, General Yard Clean Up
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